

REPORT / RECOMMENDATION



To: Park Board

Agenda Item #: VI.A.

From: Ann Kattreh
Parks & Recreation Director

Action ☐

Discussion ☒

Date: April 9, 2013

Information ☐

Subject: Lake Edina Pathway Review and Comment

Action Requested:

Review and comment on the proposed new biking and walking path at Lake Edina Park.

Information / Background:

The Park Board's 2013 Work Plan contains a public hearing for the Lake Edina Path. After discussing this item with Park Board Chair Keeya Steel, it was decided to have the Park Board provide Review and Comment on this item and have the City Council hold a public hearing and consider formal approval of this project.

This project was introduced to staff by do.Town in 2012. Do.Town hosted events and collected 60 signatures in support of a trail and playground at Lake Edina Park. \$85,000 was allocated in CIP funding for 2013 for this trail. The trail will connect Parklawn Avenue to Kellogg Avenue and will provide a safe route to Cornelia Elementary School for kids living in the Parklawn neighborhood. In 2011 the Statewide Health Improvement Program (SHIP) studied the Parklawn neighborhood. An Executive Summary is attached.

Director Kattreh is currently working with the City of Edina Engineering and Public Works departments to determine watershed district requirements and project specifications. Soil borings have been completed and a consultant was hired to determine the location of the pathway and complete a preliminary location and path layout. Cost estimates were also provided. Meetings with the Engineering, Public Works and Parks and Recreation departments staff determined that the remainder of the engineering and path construction could be done in-house by City of Edina staff. Preliminary estimates determined that the cost of the project will be approximately \$55,000. The proposed path is 10' wide and would accommodate both walkers and bikers. If approved, this project would be completed in May or June, depending upon the weather.

Attachments:

- A. Do.Town Petition
- B. Do.Town Updates – 10/10/12
- C. Parklawn Neighborhood Executive Summary
- D. Lake Edina Path Map
- E. Lake Edina Park Map
- F. Lake Edina Neighborhood Map
- G. Proposed Nine Mile Creek Trail Maps (2)

Attachment A



Edina City Council,

This petition, circulated by **do.town**, is in support of the City Council considering a Path and Playground at Lake Edina Park in the 2013-2017 Capital Improvement Plan.

The petition was circulated in the Parklawn neighborhood at Edina Park Apartment complex – 4480 Parklawn Ave S and Parklawn Estates – 4141 Parklawn Avenue. There are 197 units between the two complexes housing residents from a variety of cultural backgrounds, and families with children who attend Cornelia Elementary.

A path through Lake Edina Park would provide a safe route to school for kids walking and biking to Cornelia Elementary. A playground would give kids a safe place to play and connect families in the Parklawn neighborhood. The Parklawn Neighborhood is one of the most dense, low-income and culturally diverse parts of Edina and there is no close place to play without crossing a major intersection. Adding a path and playground at Lake Edina will increase access to and equitable distribution of resources throughout the city.

Playgrounds and safe paths have many benefits to the community. Kids who play are healthier and less likely to be obese and develop health problems. Also, playgrounds provide a place for the community to meet and foster social cohesion and positive attitudes toward racial and cultural diversity.

Sincerely,

Katie Meyer
do.town
612.746.6723
katie@do-town.org



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City of Edina, Minnesota
CITY COUNCIL
 4801 West 50th Street • Edina, Minnesota 55424
 (952) 927-8861 • (952) 927-7645 FAX • (612) 927-5461 TDD

DATE RECEIVED:

PETITION TO THE CITY COUNCIL

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> SIDEWALK | <input type="checkbox"/> ALLEY PAVING | <input type="checkbox"/> WATER MAIN |
| <input type="checkbox"/> STORM SEWER | <input type="checkbox"/> SANITARY SEWER | <input type="checkbox"/> STREET LIGHTING |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CURB AND GUTTER ONLY | <input type="checkbox"/> PERMANENT STREET SURFACING WITH CURB AND GUTTER | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER: <u>Path and Playground at Lake Edina Park</u> |

To the Mayor and City Council:

The persons who have signed this petition ask the City Council to consider the improvements listed above to the locations listed below.

<u>Lake Edina Park</u>	between <u>Parklawn Ave</u>	and <u>Kellogg Ave</u>
LOCATION OF IMPROVEMENT BY STREET NAME	ADDRESS	ADDRESS
	between	and
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IMPORTANT NOTE: THE PERSONS WHO HAVE SIGNED THIS PETITION UNDERSTAND THAT THE CITY COUNCIL MAY ASSESS THE COSTS OF THESE IMPROVEMENTS AGAINST THE PROPERTIES BENEFITING FROM THE IMPROVEMENTS IN AMOUNTS DETERMINED BY THE COUNCIL AS AUTHORIZED BY CHAPTER 429, MINNESOTA STATUTES.

PROPERTY OWNER'S SIGNATURE	OWNER'S NAME (PRINTED)	PROPERTY ADDRESS (PRINTED)
<u>Tony Zdenek</u>	<u>Tony Zdenek</u>	<u>4456 W 76th St. Apt. 302</u>
<u>Sarah Zdenek</u>	<u>Sarah Zdenek</u>	<u>4456 W 76th St. Apt. 302</u>
<u>Michael Ames</u>	<u>Michael Zdenek</u>	<u>4456 W 76th St. 302</u>
<u>N. Skelly</u>	<u>Neil Skelly</u>	<u>4480 Parklawn Ave #305</u>
<u>Anna Berg</u>	<u>Anna Berg</u>	<u>4480 Parklawn Ave. #107</u>

This petition was circulated by:

<u>do. town</u>	<u>612.746.6723</u>
NAME	PHONE

There is space for more signatures on the back.

PROPERTY OWNER'S SIGNATURE	OWNER'S NAME (PRINTED)	PROPERTY ADDRESS (PRINTED)
	Tiffany Gates	4480 Parklawn Ave, Edina
	Kevin Alexander	4480 Parklawn Ave Edina
	Christine Thompson	4480 Parklawn Ave Edina
	MONA NAJI	4456 776TH PAT 14
	Amina Alch	4456 W 76 th St #204
	Ariel Meister	4480 Parklawn Ave #107
	SHUKRI MOHAMED	4480 Parklawn
	Shukri Gribel	4480 Parklawn KU
	Yasmine Hussien	4480 Parklawn Ave #211
	Julie Jacobs	4452 W. 76 th St. #102
	Nale Bazinet	4456 W 76 St #202
	Ned Petersen	4480 Parklawn Ave
	Sahir Hani	4480 Parklawn Ave
	ISSA YUSUF	4480 Parklawn Ave
	Amanda Petersen	4480 Parklawn Ave #203
	Herman F Schaeckel	4480 Parklawn Ave #308
	Dawn Jussila	4480 Parklawn Ave #308
	Kabe Mahamed	4480 Parklawn Ave #101
	Lavonne Lein	5174 Lincoln Drive
	Kate Khater	10713 Southdale Rd

This petition was circulated by:

do. town		612.964.6850
NAME	ADDRESS	PHONE

The Minnesota Data Practices Act requires that we inform you of your rights about the private data we are requesting on this form. Under the law, your telephone number is private data. This petition when submitted will become public information. There is no consequence for refusing to supply this information.

You may attach extra pages with signatures.

APRIL 2008

PROPERTY OWNER'S SIGNATURE	OWNER'S NAME (PRINTED)	PROPERTY ADDRESS (PRINTED)
	Ramesh Ailavani	4141 Parklawn Ave. #110, Edina - 55435
	JAGESH JHA	4141 Parklawn Ave. #210 Edina - 55435
	Roshni	4141 Parklawn Ave. #305
	Gowrishankar Thirukonda	4141 Parklawn Ave #302
	DARIZON PIKKARAON	#117 4141 PARKLAWN AVE
	Dilip Pikkaraone	#117 4141 Parklawn Ave
	ARISH MADHAVAN	4141 PARKLAWN AVE EDINA MN-55435
	ROSA Castellanos	4141 PARKLAWN AVE EDINA MN-55435
	Erika Lopez	5277 82nd St #36 Bloomington MN 55437
	Ashok Jain	4141 Parklawn Ave #113 Edina MN 55435
	Diya Jain	4141 Parklawn Ave #113 Edina MN - 55435
	Vershee Jain	4141 Parklawn Ave #306 Edina MN - 55435
	Anasankar Kennedy	4141 Parklawn Ave #116 Edina 55435
	Luke Slindee	4141 Parklawn Ave #304, Edina, 554
	Sridhar Chakka	4141 PARKLAWN AVE #109, EDINA 554
	VIDYA NAGARAJ	4312 Parklawn Ave Edina 55435
	ANUPRA PRADHAN	4316, PARKLAWN AVE EDINA 55435
	MICHAEL KRUEGER	4324 PARKLAWN AVE EDINA MN 554

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Edina City Council,

This petition, circulated by **do.town**, is in support of the City Council considering a Path and Playground at Lake Edina Park in the 2013-2017 Capital Improvement Plan.

The petition was circulated in the Parklawn neighborhood throughout multiple Premier Properties Apartments including the Edina Villas Apartment Complex at 4415 Parklawn Ave. There are around 212 units between the different buildings including residents from a variety of cultural backgrounds, and families with children who attend Cornelia Elementary.

A path through Lake Edina Park would provide a safe route to school for kids walking and biking to Cornelia Elementary. A playground would give kids a safe place to play and connect families in the Parklawn neighborhood. The Parklawn Neighborhood is one of the most dense, low-income and culturally diverse parts of Edina and there is no close place to play without crossing a major intersection. Adding a path and playground at Lake Edina will increase access to and equitable distribution of resources throughout the city.

Playgrounds and safe paths have many benefits to the community. Kids who play are healthier and less likely to be obese and develop health problems. Also, playgrounds provide a place for the community to meet and foster social cohesion and positive attitudes toward racial and cultural diversity.

Sincerely,

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<u>Playground at Lake</u>
<u>Edina Park</u> |

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PROPERTY OWNER'S SIGNATURE	OWNER'S NAME (PRINTED)	PROPERTY ADDRESS (PRINTED)
<u>Angela Johnson</u>	<u>Angela Johnson</u>	<u>4456 Parklawn Ct. #207</u>
<u>Susan Potter</u>	<u>Susan Potter</u>	<u>4440 Parklawn Ave #208</u>

This petition was circulated by:

<u>do. town</u>	<u>612.746.6723</u>
NAME	PHONE

There is space for more signatures on the back.

APRIL 2008

PROPERTY OWNER'S SIGNATURE	OWNER'S NAME (PRINTED)	PROPERTY ADDRESS (PRINTED)
<u>Charles Mather</u>	<u>Charles MATHER</u>	<u>4456 Parklawn CT #206</u>
<u>Kyle Bergacker</u>	<u>Kyle BERGACKER</u>	<u>" "</u>
<u>Jean Kinder</u>	<u>Jean Kinder</u>	<u>4440 Parklawn Ave #105</u>
<u>Angela Wadkins</u>	<u>Angela Wadkins</u>	<u>4415 Parklawn CT, 207</u>
<u>Zach Atkins</u>	<u>Zach Atkins</u>	<u>28135 Boulder Bridge</u>
<u>Andrew Atkins</u>	<u>Andrew Atkins</u>	<u>5016 W 70th St</u>
<u>Monika Kusmick</u>	<u>Monika Kusmick</u>	<u>4452, W 76th Street, Apt. 203</u>
<u>Kristy Hestler</u>	<u>Kristy Hestler</u>	<u>4415 Parklawn CT Apt 209</u>
<u>Danielle Hodson</u>	<u>Danielle Hodson</u>	<u>4415 Parklawn Ct #205</u>
<u>Beverly Jorgenson</u>	<u>Beverly Jorgenson</u>	<u>4201 Parklawn Apt 304</u>
<u>Lindsey Rasmussen</u>	<u>Lindsey Rasmussen</u>	<u>4440 Parklawn Ave Apt 307</u>
<u>Sonia Estrada Lopez</u>	<u>Sonia Estrada</u>	<u>4456 Parklawn Ave Apt 101</u>
<u>Elda Anguine</u>	<u>Elda Anguine</u>	<u>4435 Parklawn Ct #112</u>
<u>Samira Kalmoi</u>	<u>Samira Kalmoi</u>	<u>4200 parklawn Ave Apt 10</u>
<u>Emo Ismail</u>	<u>Emo Ismail</u>	<u>4480 Parklawn Ave Apt 10</u>
<u>Arifin Hassan</u>	<u>Arifin Hassan</u>	<u>4420 Parklawn Ave Apt 10</u>
<u>Edman Kalmoi</u>	<u>Edman Kalmoi</u>	<u>4200 parklawn Ave Apt 101</u>

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Parklawn Path and Playground Letter

Greetings,

I am an Edina resident living in a single family residence on Lake Edina (Poppy Lane). I have a six-year old son who currently attends Cornelia Elementary school, and a three-year old son who will attend in a couple years. I would like to voice my family's strong support of a playground/path at Lake Edina Park.

This area of Edina is in severe need of a park for children to play. If we don't want to play at Cornelia (since the kids play there every day during school), then the closest parks we can find are at Roselawn Park and McGuire Park, which certainly are not within walking distance for us. It would be nice to have a park within walking/biking distance to allow my kids to release some energy and move their muscles. Additionally, we don't have sidewalks in our neighborhood, so the path might allow for some bicycle riding practice and exercise.

I work hard to teach my children good eating and exercise habits and a nearby park would help enforce those healthy habits through opportunities to run, play and move muscles. In addition, a nearby park would allow my children to broaden their horizons and friendships with children of other ethnicities, backgrounds and economic status in or near our neighborhood. Even the walk to and from the park would be good exercise and beneficial to helping build stronger, more integrated neighborhoods, where neighbors know each other because they see one another out walking.

Thank you for your time and continuous efforts to build a strong, safe and healthy environment for me and others like me to raise our children. I have nothing but great things to say about Edina and I think this would be yet another way for the city of Edina to show that it understands what is important in a community. Please let me know what I can do to help to keep this initiative moving forward.

Sincerely,

Erika

Erika Quam-Perry

4916 Poppy Lane

Edina, MN 55435

Phone: 952-687-7362

Email: equamperry@yahoo.com

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Anna Berg and I'm writing in support of the Lake Edina Park Path and Playground. I would like this idea soundly placed in the city's 2013-2017 capital improvement budget. I am currently the Community Manager at Edina Park Apartments, a community of 79 apartments and a home for many children.

Lake Edina Park is located across the road from one of my buildings off of Parklawn Court and in close proximity to the other three buildings making up Edina Park Apartments.

I personally have no children of my own, but being the Community Manager here I am involved in the safety and well-being of the children in this community. Currently there is no space for the kids to safely play, walk, or bike. I find myself constantly reminding them to stay out of the parking lots and roads for safety reasons, and to be careful in the small grassy areas available due to the close proximity to the apartments, windows, patio doors etc. when they are playing soccer, baseball, or football.

Though Centennial Lakes is nearby, it is unrealistic and unsafe for the children to walk up there and cross France Avenue. Additionally, there are very few kid activities there, especially if the children's parents aren't able to attend with them.

As an apartment manager I am also having trouble keeping the kids out of the hallways. Because there is no safe place for them to gather, they are constantly kicking balls in the hallways, knocking on doors, and trying to find things to entertain themselves. Growing up, I was blessed with a large backyard and a place to run and play. Not only would these sidewalks and a park provide a place for children it would provide an outlet for them to exercise and socialize. The benefits of a park in this area would highly outweigh any negatives that may surface throughout this process.

This would be the perfect area to put in a Playground and Sidewalk simply for the fact that there is such a concentrated population in this area. Majority, if not all, of Parklawn Avenue is apartment buildings housing many children and families. I have heard many voices in support of this initiative and hope that it is considered very seriously, and eventually approved. I would like to see the many kids growing up in apartments be able to have a place to walk safely to school with their friends, as well as a place to run around and socialize.

Thank you for your consideration, time, and attention to this matter. I am excited to be involved and become a strong voice in support for Edina Park Apartments.

Thank you,

Anna Berg

Community Manager

Edina Park Apartments

Office: 952-831-1911

manager370@edinapark.com

Letter from Katie to give the council some context

Dear Mayor Hovland and City Council,

Earlier this summer Carrie Cabe with the Edina Resource Center organized a "Meet on the Sidewalk" event in the Parklawn neighborhood at Lake Edina Park. Community members from the nearby area came with their children to meet their neighbors and get information about Parks and Recreation, **do.town**, a summer reading program, community organizations, Edina Public Schools, Edina Community Education, Edina City Staff Members and city officials. This meeting stemmed a conversation between all attendees about the possibility of a playground being added to the Lake Edina Park.

As a part of the effort to gain momentum for the playground **do.town** met with three different property managers in the Parklawn Neighborhood including Highland Properties, Premier Properties and the Goodman Group. In each instance we worked with the property managers to connect up with their residents from around 407 units to sign a petition and encourage interested parties to write a letter. I spent three different days tabling and talking to Parklawn residents about their thoughts on adding a playground to the nearby Lake Edina Park.

What was so powerful of from the conversations with the property managers and 62 residents that signed the petition was the common themes that surfaced. The first theme was that there is currently no safe place for the neighborhood children to play. Often times children play in the street or the land abutting the street. One mom said she sometimes doesn't let her son play outside with his friends because she feels it is unsafe. While tabling outside the Edina Villas Apartment last week, I saw many children including small children walking or playing in the street on Parklawn Ct, a high traffic cul-de-sac adjacent from Lake Edina Park. The second theme was there is no other park close by to get to without crossing a busy intersection or driving. Right now children must cross France Avenue to get to Centennial Lakes, even then there aren't many amenities targeted at children. A handful of moms said they usually drove to another park in Edina to play with their children. Other parents on several occasions noted they didn't feel comfortable driving or didn't have access to a vehicle. The third theme was a playground would create a central meeting place for children, parents and neighbors. Right now children from the multiple units play in the streets, yards and hallways, but a neighborhood playground would provide a sense of social connectedness and cohesion for the Parklawn neighborhood. One neighbor suggested it would be nice to meet other parents or maybe even have a picnic area. During my tabling often times neighbors would be meeting each other for the first time and it was pretty powerful to see them connecting over a shared vision of a playground at Lake Edina Park.

The Bloomington, Edina and Richfield Statewide Health Improvement Program (SHIP) conducted an assessment of the Parklawn neighborhood in December of 2011. The following data has been taken from that report to provide a broader understand of the value of a playground at Lake Edina Park. The Parklawn neighborhood is located within the 240.03 Census Tract. The population of this tract is 4,401 persons. This tract is the most racially and ethnically diverse in Edina with populations of color making up 36.7% of the total population. Among all schools in Edina, Cornelia has the highest percentage (21%) of students enrolled in free or reduced price lunch and has the highest percentage of students that are from populations of color (36%). From the focus groups they conducted during the assessment, two bullet points stood out as critical to the importance of a playground in Lake Edina park:

- Barriers to physical activity identified by participants included: affordability, lack of time, lack of childcare, lack of transportation, inclement weather, and safety concerns.
- Lake Edina Park, near the Fred Richards Golf Course, is an open space that many of the children, parents, school staff, program directors, and apartment complex managers mentioned as a desirable location for a park with amenities.

I just want to leave you with one final observation about the lack of playground at Lake Edina Park. Of the 35 neighborhood parks listed on the City of Edina website only 10 don't have playground equipment and only 5 don't have any park amenities including playground equipment, basketball court, baseball fields, tennis courts, hockey arena or gazebo. Those five neighborhood parks include Frank Tupa Park, Williams Park, Melody Lake Park,

Browndale Park and Lake Edina Park. Additionally of those 5 parks without amenities the Frank Tupa Park houses the Old Cahill School house, Williams Park is very near Wooddale Park with multiple amenities, Melody Lake Park surrounds a lake and Browndale park located on Nine Mile Creek. This means one of the most dense, most diverse neighborhoods in Edina with many young families and small children is the only park in the city to not have any amenities or recreation purpose.

Given the information provided above **do.town** believes the City of Edina should include a Playground at Lake Edina Park into the 2013-2007 CIP tomorrow as a broader vision to provide opportunities for families from all neighborhoods to be active and healthier.

KATIE MEYER

do.town

Community Organizer

O 612.746.6723 | C 612.964.6850

Attachment B

do.town Updates 10.10.12



PROJECT UPDATES – BLOOMINGTON

BUILDING THE BASE

- Outreach to groups and residents, building and expanding our network, uncover potential PSE change ideas and future needs, and find support for City Council approved SHIP priorities
 - Bike Friendly Assessment Group
 - Alternative Transportation Plan – Group members
 - City Staff and Departments
 - Bloomington Residents
 - Local Businesses (REI, QBP, Erik's, Major Hubs)
 - Citizen Groups
 - Service Organizations (VEAP)
 - Figure Skating Club
- Attending events
 - Bloomington Farmers Market (active Living Day)
 - Heritage Day
 - Kennedy High School Business Class
 - Community Garden Workshop
 - Bloomington Plotters Council

SCHOOLS

- **Safe Routes to School**
 - Walk to School day, do.town drove walking audits with parents and students as a critical component of this day
 - One walking audit to date at Poplar Bridge was completed
- **Food in School**
 - Working with SHIP and a Bloomington Kennedy High School Business class to promote a healthy a la carte menu option during lunch.

COMMUNITY – HEALTHY EATING

- **Concessions**
 - Working with BIG management and Bloomington Amateur Hockey Association Concession manager Matt Leuma to create a healthy concession survey for frequent users of the concession stand.
 - Attending a Figure Skating Club around Halloween to interact with parents.

- **Community Gardens**

- Continue work with community gardeners at both Smith and Harrison Parks to help create an oversight committee to build community between both the gardeners and the surrounding neighborhood. We hosted our first Plotters Council meeting and are working with Jim Urie to build some of those changes into next year.
- Looking to partner more closely with VEAP as well.

COMMUNITY – ACTIVE LIVING

- **Complete Streets** – Leveraging walking audits to get citizens engaged in creating complete streets
- **Bicycle Rack Cost Sharing Program**
 - Posted a dotownideas.org question about where bike racks are needed
 - Working with commuter services to distribute free bike racks to businesses and organizations in Bloomington
- **Local Parks and Trails**
 - Captured ideas about how to improve the local parks on a chalkboard at REI
 - Met with employees of REI at a staff meeting

PROJECT UPDATES - EDINA

Living Streets

- **do.town** is generating letters in support of the Franchise Fee that will build a fund for future pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure improvement projects, creating a more walkable and bikeable community.
- The franchise fee was approved at the Oct. 16 City Council meeting
- **do.town** will be working on ways to build awareness of what a Living Street vision is and getting residents on board with the future direction of the city

School Food Environment

- Food in school parents, along with **do.town** staff, are setting up meetings with school board members to educate them on their position relating to the school lunch program
- New school district staff, Randy Smasal, is running the district wellness committee and is supportive of having more involvement from parents in making decisions about food in schools. Step one is to have an evening meeting that will open access for more parents attend.

- Edina Community Health Committee will follow up with the Edina School Board in support of a healthier school food environment

Safe Routes to School

- Creek Valley, Concord, Highlands and Cornelia Elementary all participated in Oct. 3 walk to school day. The Mayor and City Council members who were available went to a school to greet and encourage the students.

Bicycle Rack Cost Sharing

- **do.town** recently discovered that Commuter Services has 19 free bicycle racks to give away to businesses in Edina, Bloomington and Richfield. These are starter racks with 6 parking spots and need to be bolted to the concrete.
- **do.town** will use this as an entrée to businesses to open the discussion of about a bicycle rack cost sharing program in the three cities.

Community Gardens

- **do.town** is meeting with the Southdale YMCA to talk about their involvement with a pilot community garden at Yorktown Park. In a recent email conversation, Executive Director Greg Hanks said his Membership Service Director recently brought up this possibility to him and there are a number of Ys picking up on the concept and it may be great for a shared project.
- Edina Community Health Committee voted to recommend a pilot community garden at Yorktown Park, North of the Southdale YMCA.

Parklawn - Lake Edina Park

- **do.town** collected 60 signatures from residents in support of a Playground and a Path at Lake Edina Park and generated two letters in support
- The City included funding for the Lake Edina Park path in the Community Investment Plan (CIP) but not for the
- At the CIP work session, the City Council decided to amend that decision and fund \$30,000 in 2013 to create a plan for a Lake Edina Park playground and budget construction costs for future years. With a draft plan in hand by 2013, the city will be able to pursue both grant and private funding to help supplement the cost of construction

Healthy Concessions

- **do.town** is working with the Braemar Arena to survey their users about the kinds of healthier options they would like to see at their concession stands

PROJECT UPDATES - RICHFIELD

SCHOOLS

- **Safe Routes to School:**
 - City and School District developing a Safe Routes to School Plan, supported by SHIP funds. **do.town** staff will help with public engagement.
 - **do.town** attended back to school nights at (RDLS, STEM, Richfield Middle School)
 - Bike/Walk to school day – **do.town** drove walking audits with parents and students.
 - One walking audit to date at STEM was completed and a letter returned to school and city officials

COMMUNITY – HEALTHY EATING

- **Community Gardens**
 - **do.town** staff is working with the city and community members to identify potential location(s) for community gardens within the Richfield city limits
 - **do.town** provided outreach strategies at SHIP's community garden workshop. Will have follow-up meetings with interested Richfield Community Gardens on reaching out to their community.
- **Farmers Markets**
 - Lyndale Gardens is planning a December market and **do.town** staff will reach out to participate in driving people to this event
- **Concessions**
 - Continued outreach to concession managers at local facilities to help survey frequent users about what healthy option they would buy and eat.
 - We have developed a survey with Manager Brandon Klement and have begun outreach to the Richfield Hockey Association.

COMMUNITY – ACTIVE LIVING

- **Walking Audits** – Currently in the planning phase with the Richfield Optimists, Rotarians and Village Shores Senior Center

- **Bicycle Master Plan**
 - do.town hosted a supper club for residents interested in participating in a bicycle task force that would be sanctioned by the city and hold a nonvoting seat on the Transportation Commission
 - The Transportation Commission was scheduled to affirm this group at the October meeting – with the cancellation of that meeting, this item will move to the November agenda

- **Complete Streets** –do.town staff identifying community support for a complete streets policy
 - As in Edina, all Walking Audits will be followed by letters of support to Transportation Commission and City Council for the passage of Complete Streets in Richfield.

Attachment C

Parklawn Neighborhood Assessment Executive Summary December 2011

Background

The Bloomington, Edina, and Richfield Statewide Health Improvement Program (SHIP) Community Leadership Team, identified the Parklawn neighborhood located in the city of Edina, MN as an area in which to conduct an assessment. The Parklawn neighborhood was identified based on anecdotal information that this area of Edina is racially and ethnically diverse and lower income compared to other parts of the city. In addition, the area is in close proximity to the new Centennial Lakes Farmers Market. Researchers from the Minnesota Institute of Public Health (MIPH), an independent agency working with the Bloomington Public Health, conducted the neighborhood assessment to determine the accessibility and potential barriers to physical activity and access to nutritious foods.

Methods

This area of interest was defined using the following parameters:

- 70th Street on the north;
- France Avenue on the east;
- 76th Street on the south; and
- Fred Richards Golf Course and Westshore Drive on the west (*see map on page 4*).

The Parklawn neighborhood Assessment was completed using a variety of methodologies including an environmental scan, local data review, key informant interviews and focus groups. The environmental scan of the neighborhood identified nearby locations of fitness facilities, grocery stores, farmers markets, apartment complexes, parks and schools and accessibility to these facilities. Census 2010 demographic information and school enrollment numbers comprised the local data review. Initial interviews with Parklawn area property managers, residents and key members of the community led MIPH staff to plan key informant interviews and focus groups with the following populations:

- Somali and Southeast Indian residents
- Senior citizen residents
- Parents of school age children that attend Cornelia Elementary School
- Students at Cornelia Elementary School

Key informants and focus group participants were asked questions regarding 1) the availability and accessibility to healthy, affordable food in the Parklawn neighborhood and 2) opportunities to be physically active and the ease at which this is accomplished in the Parklawn neighborhood. Key informant interviews were conducted with 15 persons from or familiar with the Parklawn neighborhood. Four focus groups were conducted with senior citizens, Southeastern Indian families and students at Cornelia Elementary Schools. Three phone interviews were conducted with Somali parents in the neighborhood using an interpreter to gain the same information as obtained in the focus groups.

Learnings from Parklawn Neighborhood Assessment

Learnings from the Environmental Scan

An environmental scan and inventory was used to identify and analyze food access and available opportunities for physical activity. Geographic Information System (GIS) mapping, review of demographic census and school enrollment data comprised the scan. Results of the scan showed the following:

- The 2010 Edina population was 47,941. Racially, Edina's population is primarily White (88%) and ethnically, 2.3% of the population reported their ethnicity as Latino (United States Census Bureau, 2010).
- The Parklawn neighborhood is located within the 240.03 Census Tract. The population of this tract is 4,401 persons. This tract is the most racially and ethnically diverse in Edina with populations of color making up 36.7% of the total population. Eighteen percent of the population lives under 200% of the Federal Poverty level, the second highest percentage of all census tracts in Edina.
- One school, Cornelia Elementary School, serves a high number of children who reside in the Parklawn neighborhood. Among all schools in Edina, Cornelia has the highest percentage (21%) of students enrolled in free or reduced price lunch and has the highest percentage of students that are from populations of color (36%).
- The Parklawn neighborhood map (*see map on page 4*) was developed using GIS software. The map illustrates locations of parks, fitness centers, bicycle trails, the farmers market, grocery stores, schools, and healthcare clinics, along with public safety features such as streets with sidewalks, crosswalks, stoplights, and transit stops. The map shows two grocery stores, the Edina farmers market, the YMCA and Centennial Lakes Park near the Parklawn neighborhood, though it is required to cross France Avenue to access these amenities. Additionally, it is required to cross 76th street to access a nearby LA Fitness.

Learnings regarding the availability and accessibility to healthy, affordable food

Questions were asked about the availability and accessibility of healthy, affordable food for Parklawn residents. They were asked where they typically shop for healthy foods and about barriers to purchasing healthy foods. Results yielded the following information:

- There are an adequate amount of food stores from which an individual could purchase fruits, vegetables, and other healthy foods, located in the Parklawn neighborhood. There are two large grocery stores and a summer farmers market within ½ mile of the Parklawn neighborhood from which residents could purchase fruits, vegetables, and other healthy foods.
- Regarding access to grocery stores and farmers markets, most felt that there were safe, adequate routes to and from stores and markets. Many of those of Somali descent shop at the Halal stores in Minneapolis, MN. Halal grocery stores carry foods specific to the Islamic diet, such as goat and lamb meat.

- Some traditional diets of New Americans may not include a variety of foods, particularly fruits and vegetables. For example, two key informants remarked that the Somali traditional diet is heavy in foods such as meat, rice and pasta.
- Key informant interviewees revealed that the challenges related to healthy eating were strongly dependent upon income levels, employment options, family size, and the location of residence in the Parklawn neighborhood.

Learnings about opportunities to be physically active

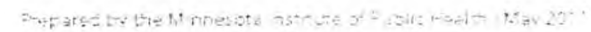
Focus group participants and key informants were asked about the opportunities to be physically active and the ease at which this is accomplished in the Parklawn neighborhood. Questions were also asked about current and missing infrastructure to support physical activity and safe routes in the neighborhood. Results yielded the following information:

- There is a wide selection of physical activity and recreational opportunities available near the Parklawn neighborhood. This is confirmed in the environmental scan results showing nearby locations of LA fitness, Centennial Lakes Park and Lake Edina Park. Opportunities mentioned by focus group participants and interviewees include exercise equipment, exercise classes and/or onsite swimming pools, fitness centers and recreational areas.
- Limited public transportation in Edina, usually requiring a transfer, along with busy streets lacking safe walk/bikeways were mentioned as barriers to accessing some sites for physical activity by some focus group participants and key informants. Most students are driven to and from school by their parents.
- It is common for senior citizens from this neighborhood to use the walking path around Centennial Lakes or the nearby YMCA.
- Numerous students from the Cornelia School focus groups reported safety as a concern for walking to school due to a limited number of adequate safe sidewalks to school.
- Barriers to physical activity identified by participants included: affordability, lack of time, lack of childcare, lack of transportation, inclement weather, and safety concerns.
- Lake Edina Park, near the Fred Richards Golf Course, is an open space that many of the children, parents, school staff, program directors, and apartment complex managers mentioned as a desirable location for a park with amenities.
- One key informant noted many Somali families in the Parklawn neighborhood were struggling and that physical activity is difficult due to economic barriers, cultural differences such as not being able to exercise in front of a man if you are a woman, limited transportation and language barriers and necessity of a translator in some cases.

Summary

The Parklawn neighborhood assessment was completed to determine the accessibility and potential barriers to physical activity and access to nutritious foods. It is anticipated that the Community Leadership Team members of the Statewide Health Improvement Program will utilize these findings to better understand the neighborhood and develop recommendations as needed. Leadership Team members are encouraged to share this information with other groups in Edina to assist in future planning in the City.

Healthy Food and Physical Activity Assessment | Edina, Minnesota



Ann Kattreh

From: Sprague, Josh <joshsprague@edinarealty.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 02, 2012 11:03 AM
To: Ann Kattreh
Subject: FW: Playground at Lake Edina Park - do.town observations
Attachments: image001.gif; Exec_Summary_Final_Dec_2011.docx

Fyi

:: js

josh sprague, realtor
edina realty 6800 france
cell 612.501.0252
<http://joshsprague.com>

-----Original Message-----

From: Edina Mail [mailto:mail@EdinaMN.gov]
Received: Tuesday, 02 Oct 2012, 10:26am
Subject: FW: Playground at Lake Edina Park - do.town observations

This message has been forwarded to the Mayor and all members of the City Council.

[Description: <http://intranet/images/signature/citylogosig.gif>]

Emilie Kastner, Communications Assistant
952-826-0342 | Fax 952-826-0389
ekastner@EdinaMN.gov | www.EdinaMN.gov
...For Living, Learning, Raising Families & Doing Business

From: Katie Meyer [mailto:katie@do-town.org]
Sent: Monday, October 01, 2012 7:32 PM
To: Edina Mail
Subject: Playground at Lake Edina Park - do.town observations

Dear Mayor Hovland and City Council,

Earlier this summer Carrie Cabe with the Edina Resource Center organized a "Meet on the Sidewalk" event in the Parklawn neighborhood at Lake Edina Park. Community members from the nearby area came with their children to meet their neighbors and get information about Parks and Recreation, do.town, a summer reading program, community organizations, Edina Public Schools, Edina Community Education, Edina City Staff Members and city officials. This meeting stemmed a conversation between all attendees about the possibility of a playground being added to the Lake Edina Park.

As a part of the effort to gain momentum for the playground do.town met with three different property managers in the Parklawn Neighborhood including Highland Properties, Premier Properties and the Goodman Group. In each instance we worked with the property managers to connect up with their residents from around 407 units to sign a petition and encourage interested parties to write a letter. I spent three different days tabling and talking to Parklawn residents about their thoughts on adding a playground to the nearby Lake Edina Park.

What was so powerful of from the conversations with the property managers and 62 residents that signed the petition was the common themes that surfaced. The first theme was that there is currently no safe place for the neighborhood children to play. Often times children play in the street or the land abutting the street. One mom said she sometimes doesn't let her son play outside with his friends because she feels it is unsafe. While tabling outside the Edina Villas Apartment last week, I saw many children including small children walking or playing in the street on Parklawn Ct, a high traffic cul-de-sac adjacent from Lake Edina Park. The second theme was there is no other park close by to get to without crossing a busy intersection or driving. Right now children must cross France Avenue to get to Centennial Lakes, even then there aren't many amenities targeted at children. A handful of moms said they usually drove to another park in Edina to play with their children. Other parents on several occasions noted they didn't feel comfortable driving or didn't have access to a vehicle. The third theme was a playground would create a central meeting place for children, parents and neighbors. Right now children from the multiple units play in the streets, yards and hallways, but a neighborhood playground would provide a sense of social connectedness and cohesion for the Parklawn neighborhood. One neighbor suggested it would be nice to meet other parents or maybe even have a picnic area. During my tabling often times neighbors would be meeting each other for the first time and it was pretty powerful to see them connecting over a shared vision of a playground at Lake Edina Park.

The Bloomington, Edina and Richfield Statewide Health Improvement Program (SHIP) conducted an assessment of the Parklawn neighborhood in December of 2011. The following data has been taken from that report to provide a broader understand of the value of a playground at Lake Edina Park. The Parklawn neighborhood is located within the 240.03 Census Tract. The population of this tract is 4,401 persons. This tract is the most racially and ethnically diverse in Edina with populations of color making up 36.7% of the total population. Among all schools in Edina, Cornelia has the highest percentage (21%) of students enrolled in free or reduced price lunch and has the highest percentage of students that are from populations of color (36%). From the focus groups they conducted during the assessment, two bullet points stood out as critical to the importance of a playground in Lake Edina park:

* Barriers to physical activity identified by participants included: affordability, lack of time, lack of childcare, lack of transportation, inclement weather, and safety concerns.

* Lake Edina Park, near the Fred Richards Golf Course, is an open space that many of the children, parents, school staff, program directors, and apartment complex managers mentioned as a desirable location for a park with amenities.

I just want to leave you with one final observation about the lack of playground at Lake Edina Park. Of the 35 neighborhood parks listed on the City of Edina website only 10 don't have playground equipment and only 5 don't have any park amenities including

playground equipment, basketball court, baseball fields, tennis courts, hockey arena or gazebo. Those five neighborhood parks include Frank Tupa Park, Williams Park, Melody Lake Park, Browndale Park and Lake Edina Park. Additionally of those 5 parks without amenities the Frank Tupa Park houses the Old Cahill School house, Williams Park is very near Wooddale Park with multiple amenities, Melody Lake Park surrounds a lake and Browndale park located on Nine Mile Creek. This means one of the most dense, most diverse neighborhoods in Edina with many young families and small children is the only park in the city to not have any amenities or recreation purpose.

Given the information provided above do.town believes the City of Edina should include a Playground at Lake Edina Park into the 2013-2007 CIP tomorrow as a broader vision to provide opportunities for families from all neighborhoods to be active and healthier.

KATIE MEYER

do.town

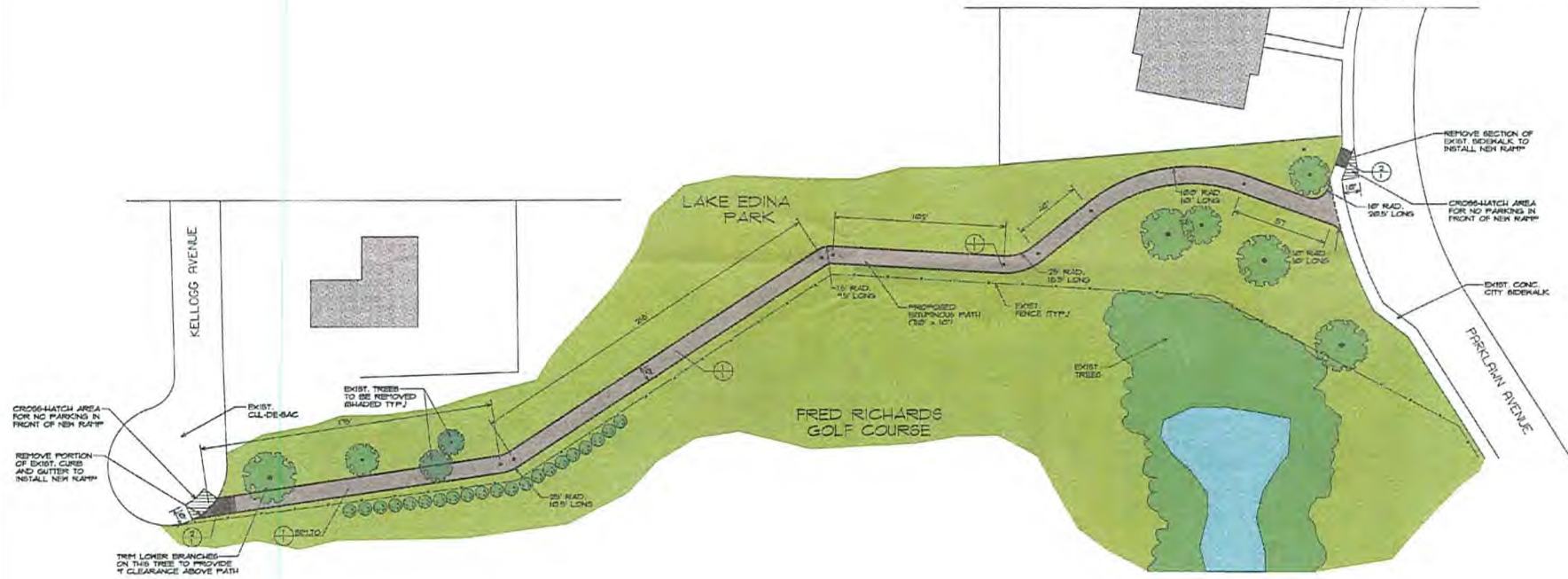
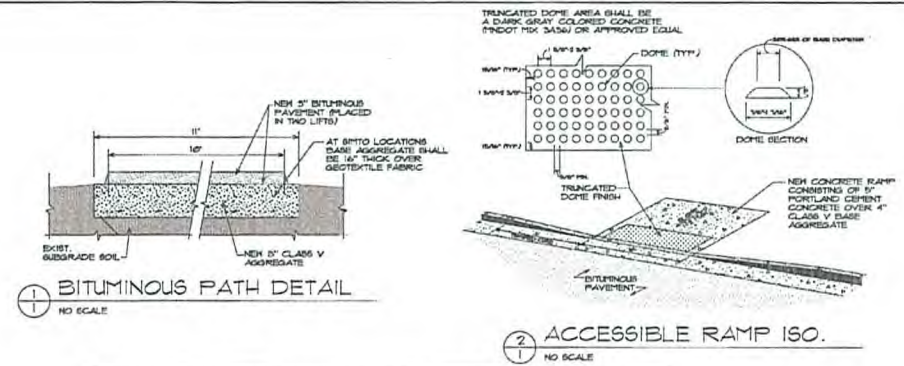
Community Organizer

O 612.746.6723 | C 612.964.6850

GENERAL NOTES:

1. LOCATIONS AND SIZES OF ALL UNDERGROUND UTILITIES SHOWN ARE APPROXIMATE ONLY. VERIFY ALL UTILITIES. CONTRACTOR RESPONSIBLE FOR REPAIR TO ANY DAMAGED UNDERGROUND UTILITIES.
2. CONTRACTOR RESPONSIBLE FOR LOCATING AND PROTECTING ALL SITE UTILITIES, INCLUDING PRIVATE UTILITIES.
3. ALL CONSTRUCTION MUST COMPLY WITH APPLICABLE ORDINANCES.
4. CONTRACTOR SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR AND PAY FOR ALL CONSTRUCTION STAKING.
5. CONTRACTOR SHALL OBTAIN AND PAY FOR ALL CONSTRUCTION PERMITS.
6. PROTECT EXISTING FACILITIES AND VEGETATION WHICH ARE TO REMAIN. RESTORE ALL DISTURBED AREAS, INCLUDING PAVEMENTS, LANDSCAPING, AND LAWN AREAS TO ORIGINAL CONDITION.
7. RESTORATION OF PERIMETER LAWN AREAS TO INCLUDE BLACK DIRT AND SOG UNLESS NOTED OTHERWISE.

PRELIMINARY FOR REVIEW ONLY



PROPOSED PATHWAY

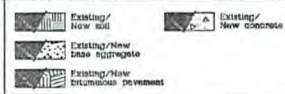


PRELIMINARY FOR REVIEW ONLY

- GENERAL PROJECT NOTES :**
1. Verify measurements and conditions on the project.
 2. Specifications include brief descriptions of existing conditions.
 3. Review specifications for instructions not shown on drawings.
 4. Existing and new materials common to several details may be noted on only one.
 5. Shaded portions on details represent existing conditions.
 6. Review project specifications for additional details not shown on drawings.
 7. Contractor shall be responsible for maintaining safe working conditions on street for employees or other persons at the site.

- GENERAL DETAIL NOTES :**
1. Shaded portion on key and site plan represent existing buildings.

DETAIL SYMBOLS :



I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PLAN, SPECIFICATION, OR REPORT WAS PREPARED BY ME OR UNDER MY CLOSE PERSONAL SUPERVISION AND THAT I AM A DULY LICENSED ENGINEER UNDER THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA.

SIGNATURE: _____

TITLED OR PRINTED NAME: MICHAEL A. HANSEN, P.E.

DATE: 08/26/12 SHEET NO. 1 OF 1

NEW PAVED PATH
LAKE EDINA PARK
EDINA, MINNESOTA

INSPEC

3001 Duluth Street
Minneapolis, MN 55412
TEL: 763-546-9404

PROJECT NO. 1101
DATE: 08/26/12 SHEET: 1 OF 1

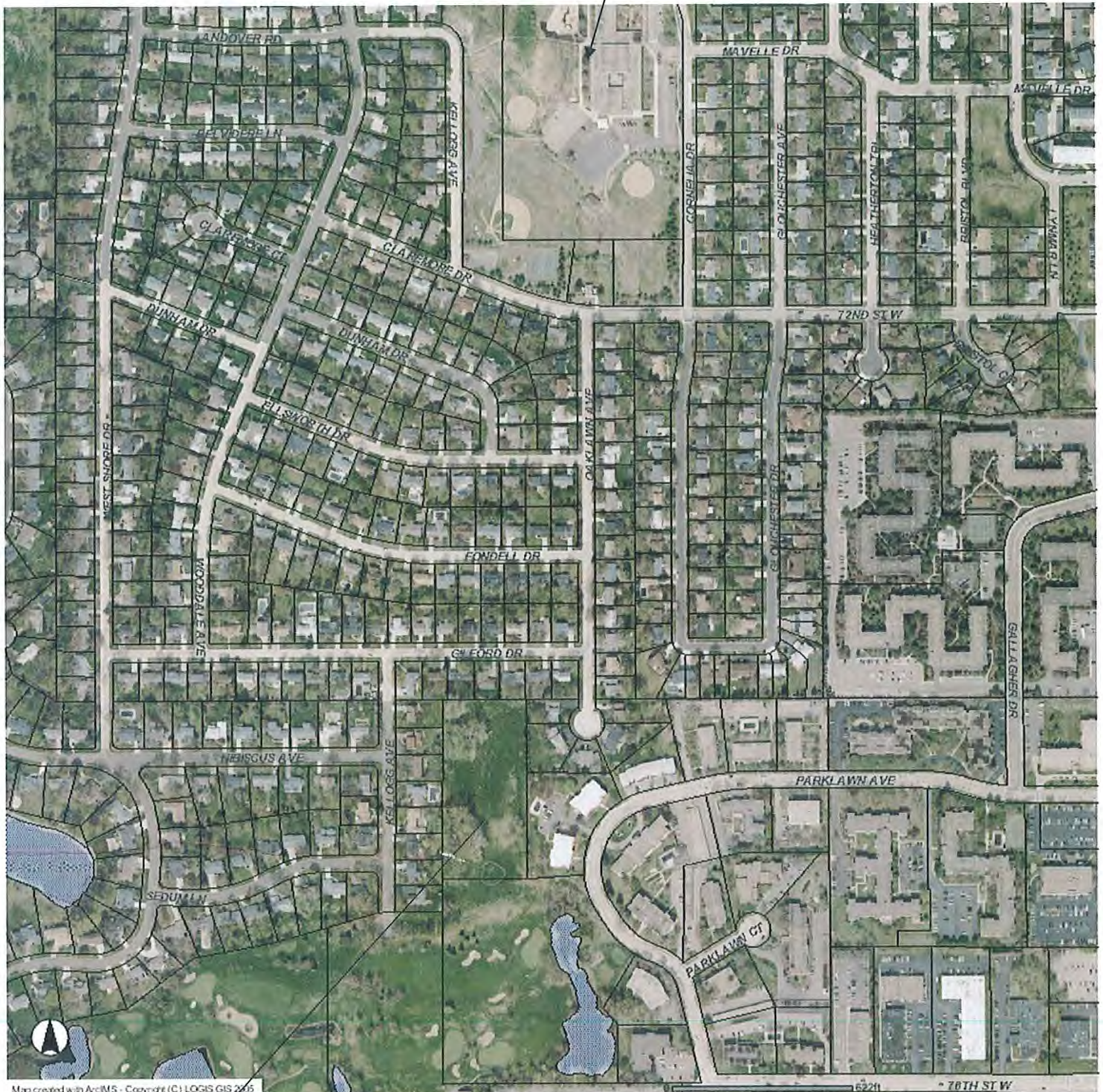
Attachment E



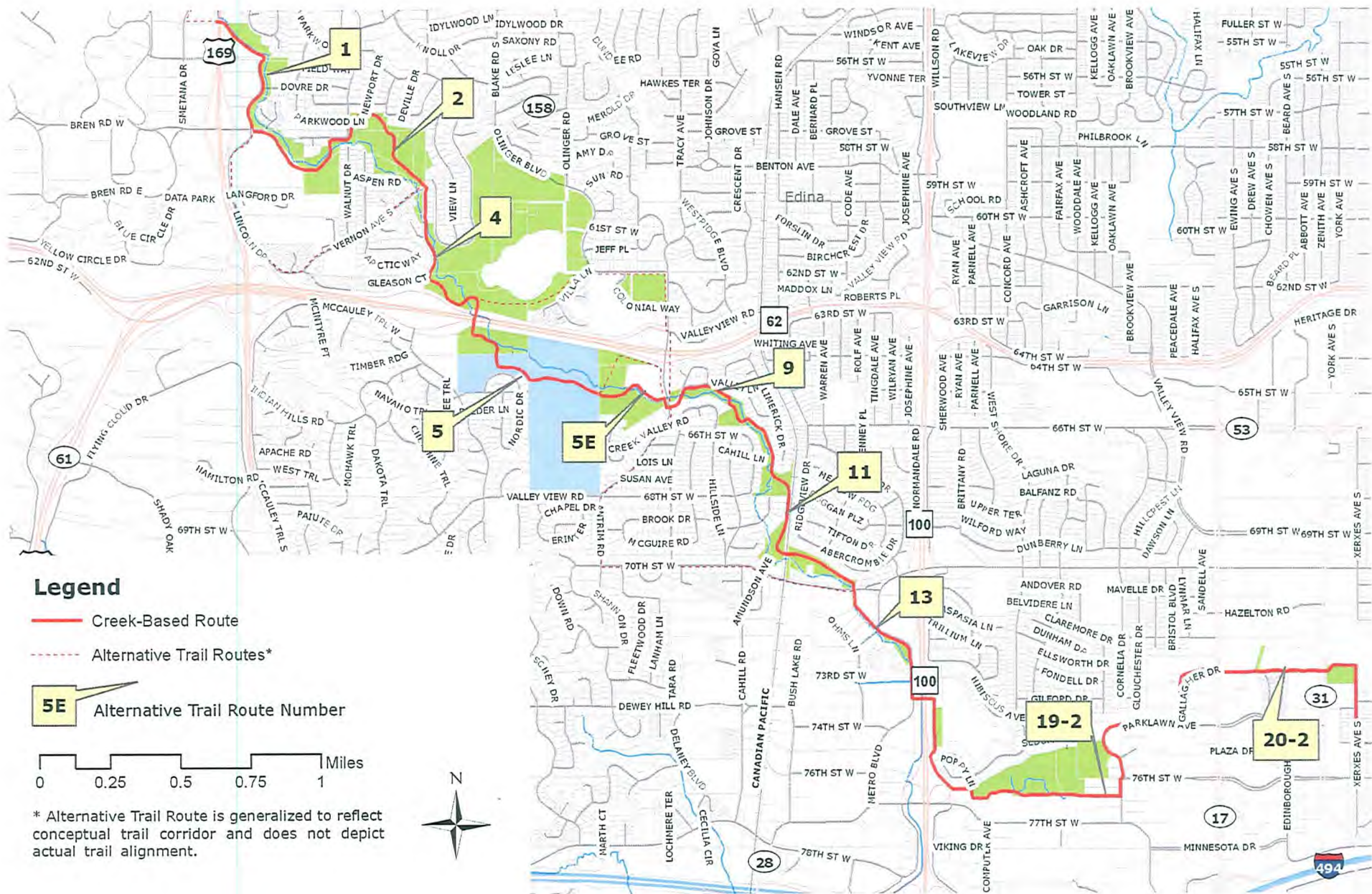
Lake Edina Park

Attachment F

Cornelia School

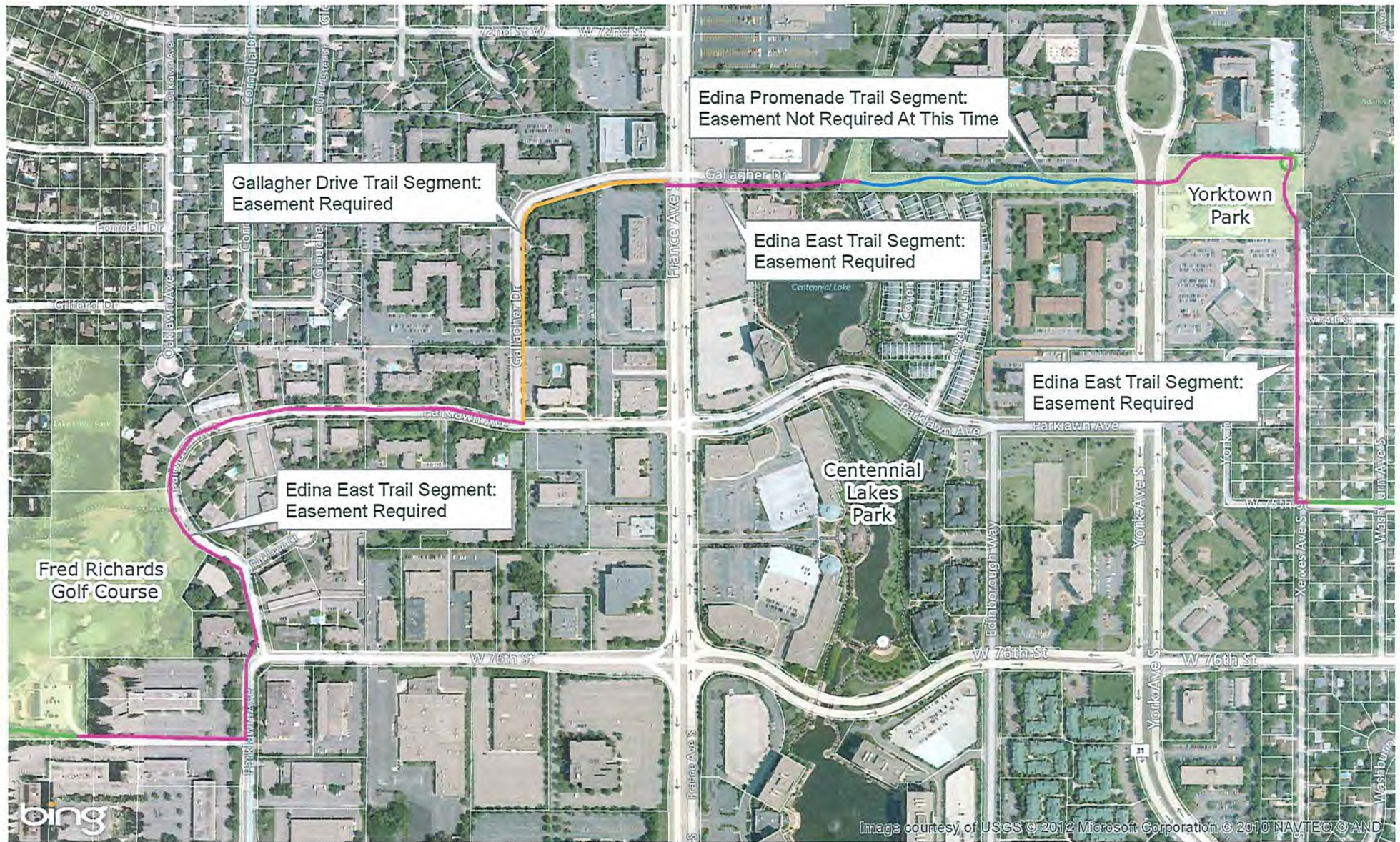


Lake Edina Park



This GIS Data is provided "as is" without warranty of any representation of accuracy, timeliness, or completeness. The user acknowledges and accepts the limitations of the Data, including the fact that the Data is dynamic and is in a constant state of maintenance, correction, and update.

Map prepared by Three Rivers Park District
Planning Section - KKG
06-2010



Nine Mile Creek Regional Trail: City of Edina

- Edina East Trail Segment
- Edina Promenade Trail Segment
- Gallagher Drive Trail Segment
- Existing and Planned Regional Trails



0 0.075 0.15 Miles



This GIS Data is provided "as is" without warranty of any representation of accuracy, timeliness, or completeness. The user acknowledges and accepts the limitations of the Data, including the fact that the Data is dynamic and is in a constant state of maintenance, correction, and update.

Map prepared by Three Rivers Park District
Planning Section - KKG
07-2012